

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 13 - 15, 17 - 28 and 34 are now pending. This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 3, 5, 6, 8 - 12, 16, and 29 - 33, for the sole purpose of reducing claim fees. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in the present or a continuing application.

The Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733 for any fees dues in connection with this paper.

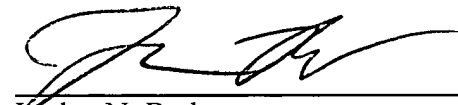
Consideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone call would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: January 11, 2005

By:


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